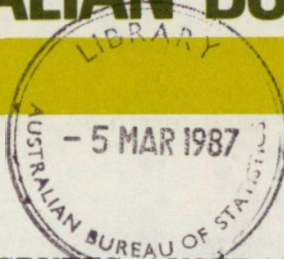




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INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES, AUSTRALIA, NOVEMBER 1986

- PHONE INQUIRIES • *about these statistics*—contact Mr C. Chan on Canberra (062) 52 6561 or any ABS State office.
• *about other statistics and ABS services*—contact **Information Services** on Canberra (062) 52 6007, 52 6627, 52 5402 or any ABS State office.
- MAIL INQUIRIES • *write to* **Information Services**, ABS, P.O. Box 10, Belconnen, A.C.T. 2616 or any ABS State office.
- ELECTRONIC SERVICES • on VIATEL — key *656#. • on AUSSTATS — phone (062) 52 6017.
• on TELESTATS — phone (062) 52 5404.

MAIN FEATURES

In November 1986, 162,000 working days were lost by 62,800 workers in 180 disputes compared with 84,100 working days lost by 74,300 workers in 193 disputes in October 1986. In the 12 months ended November 1986, 1,306,600 working days were lost compared with 1,293,500 and 1,308,500 working days lost in the 12 months ended November 1985 and November 1984 respectively.

The largest dispute in November 1986 involved nurses in Victoria.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Coverage

The statistics relate only to disputes involving stoppages of work of ten working days or more at the establishments where the stoppages occurred. Ten working days is equivalent to the amount of ordinary time worked by ten people in one day.

2. The figures of working days lost relate to the losses due to industrial disputes (as defined in paragraph 4) and not to aggregate losses for the economy as a whole. Details shown in this publication refer to all disputes in progress during the reference period indicated.

3. The statistics of industrial disputes are compiled mainly from data obtained from employers (both private and government) and trade unions concerning individual disputes and from reports of government authorities. Particulars of some stoppages (for example, those involving a large number of establishments) may have been estimated and the statistics therefore should be regarded as giving only a broad measure of the extent of industrial disputes (as defined).

Definitions

4. For these statistics an *industrial dispute* is defined as a withdrawal from work by a group of employees or a refusal by an employer or a number of employers to permit some or all of their employees to work, each withdrawal or refusal being made in order to enforce a demand, to resist a demand, or to express a grievance.

5. *Workers involved* include workers directly and indirectly involved in disputes. Workers indirectly involved are those thrown out of work at the establishments where the stoppages occurred, but who are not themselves parties to the dispute.

6. Differences between monthly and annual totals of workers involved can occur due to temporary cessations of stoppages that resume in subsequent months. Workers re-involved in this type of dispute are included in the monthly totals.

7. *Working days lost* refer to working days lost by workers directly and indirectly involved in the dispute and figures are generally as reported by parties to the dispute. For some disputes working days lost are estimated on the basis of the number of workers involved and the duration of the dispute.

8. *Working days lost per 1,000 employees* have been compiled from those lost by workers directly and indirectly involved in disputes involving stoppages of work of ten working days or more in the establishments where the stoppages occurred. Working days lost in agriculture, etc. and in private households employing staff have been *excluded* from Tables 4 and 5 but *included* in Tables 1 to 3.

9. The estimates of numbers of employees are obtained from the Labour Force Survey.

Other ABS publications

10. Users may also wish to refer to the following publications:

Industrial Disputes, Australia (6322.0)—issued annually, contains more detailed information including statistics on the cause, method of settlement and duration of industrial disputes.

Labour Statistics, Australia, 1985 (6101.0)

The Labour Force, Australia (6203.0)—issued monthly

11. Current publications produced by the ABS are listed in the *Catalogue of Publications, Australia* (1101.0). The ABS also issues, on Tuesdays and Fridays, a *Publications Advice* (1105.0) which lists publications to be released in the next few days. The Catalogue and Publications Advice are available from any ABS office.

Symbols and other usages

r figures revised since last issue

12. Where figures have been rounded, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and totals.

Electronic services

13. VIATEL. Key *656# for selected current economic, social and demographic statistics.

AUSSTATS. Thousands of up-to-date time series are available on this ABS on-line service through CSIRONET.

For further information phone the AUSSTATS Help Desk on (062) 52 6017.

TELESTATS. This service provides foreign trade statistics tailored to users' requirements.

Further information is available on (062) 52 5404.

IAN CASTLES
Australian Statistician

TABLE 1. INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES : AUSTRALIA

| Period | Number of disputes | | Workers involved ('000) | | Working days lost ('000) |
|----------------------|---------------------|----------|-------------------------|----------|--------------------------|
| | Commenced in period | Total(a) | Newly involved(b) | Total(a) | |
| 1983 | 1,779 | 1,787 | 452.8 | 470.2 | 1,641.4 |
| 1984 | 1,958 | 1,965 | 551.1 | 560.3 | 1,307.4 |
| 1985 | 1,830 | 1,845 | 552.6 | 570.5 | 1,256.2 |
| Twelve months ended— | | | | | |
| November 1984 | 1,938 | 1,952 | 519.6 | 532.3 | 1,308.5 |
| 1985 | 1,834 | 1,860 | 579.0 | 595.5 | 1,293.5 |
| 1986 | 1,680 | 1,693 | 670.8 | 673.9 | 1,306.6 |
| 1985— | | | | | |
| December | 104 | 117 | 29.2 | 32.4 | 45.0 |
| 1986— | | | | | |
| January | 77 | 84 | 6.3 | 8.5 | 15.2 |
| February | 155 | 164 | 32.3 | 48.3 | 121.0 |
| March | 142 | 158 | 26.9 | 43.1 | 63.1 |
| April | 111 | 131 | 33.6 | 52.9 | 221.1 |
| May | 162 | 178 | 236.1 | 240.2 | 221.8 |
| June | 118 | 130 | 30.3 | 35.2 | 83.5 |
| July | 194 | 208 | 75.4 | 80.8 | 119.9 |
| August | 132 | 147 | 27.6 | 29.6 | 67.3 |
| September | 151 | 171 | 53.9 | 64.1 | 102.7 |
| October | r175 | r193 | r70.4 | r74.3 | r84.1 |
| November | 159 | 180 | 48.7 | 62.8 | 162.0 |

(a) Refers to all disputes in progress during the period. (b) Comprises workers involved in disputes which commenced during the month and additional workers involved in disputes which continued from the previous month.

TABLE 2. INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES : BY INDUSTRY, AUSTRALIA, WORKING DAYS LOST ('000)

| Period | Mining | | Manufacturing | | Construction | Transport and storage; Communication | Other industries (a) | All industries |
|----------------------|--------|-------|---|-------|--------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------|
| | Coal | Other | Metal products, machinery and equipment | Other | | | | |
| 1983 | 122.8 | 194.7 | 157.6 | 120.7 | 337.2 | 213.6 | 494.8 | 1,641.4 |
| 1984 | 131.1 | 193.2 | 144.8 | 249.3 | 116.3 | 150.6 | 322.1 | 1,307.4 |
| 1985 | 233.8 | 106.4 | 107.3 | 189.4 | 175.3 | 180.4 | 263.7 | 1,256.2 |
| Twelve months ended— | | | | | | | | |
| November 1984 | 125.1 | 196.0 | 138.0 | 245.2 | 133.6 | 181.7 | 288.9 | 1,308.5 |
| 1985 | 224.2 | 107.6 | 116.1 | 192.9 | 173.2 | 188.8 | 290.7 | 1,293.5 |
| 1986 | 367.9 | 171.0 | 186.4 | 194.5 | 112.2 | 61.2 | 213.4 | 1,306.6 |
| 1985— | | | | | | | | |
| December | 18.6 | 3.1 | 3.5 | 3.0 | 3.3 | 4.9 | 8.7 | 45.0 |
| 1986— | | | | | | | | |
| January | 1.5 | 1.0 | 1.7 | 1.3 | 4.3 | 2.8 | 2.6 | 15.2 |
| February | 83.3 | 6.6 | 4.0 | 3.3 | 5.3 | 3.8 | 14.8 | 121.0 |
| March | 15.6 | 5.0 | 12.2 | 9.8 | 3.4 | 8.5 | 8.7 | 63.1 |
| April | 150.7 | 22.9 | 7.3 | 11.8 | 4.4 | 4.6 | 19.4 | 221.1 |
| May | 23.1 | 20.7 | 82.2 | 18.9 | 52.2 | 11.6 | 13.1 | 221.8 |
| June | 6.5 | 29.2 | 9.0 | 12.8 | 9.1 | 9.3 | 7.6 | 83.5 |
| July | 17.5 | 28.4 | 9.2 | 30.7 | 6.9 | 9.9 | 17.2 | 119.9 |
| August | 5.3 | 31.6 | 7.0 | 11.0 | 3.3 | 2.6 | 6.6 | 67.3 |
| September | 6.8 | 11.6 | 11.8 | 48.1 | 7.0 | 1.1 | 16.3 | 102.7 |
| October | r18.8 | 2.7 | 19.1 | 18.4 | 3.2 | 1.5 | 20.4 | r84.1 |
| November | 20.0 | 8.3 | 19.4 | 25.5 | 9.9 | 0.7 | 78.2 | 162.0 |

(a) Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting; Electricity, gas and water; Wholesale and retail trade; Finance, property and business services; Public administration and defence; Community services; Recreation, personal and other services.

TABLE 3. INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES : STATES AND AUSTRALIA, WORKING DAYS LOST ('000)

| Period | N.S.W. | Vic. | Qld | S.A. | W.A. | Tas. | Aust. (a) |
|----------------------|--------|-------|-------|------|-------|------|-----------|
| 1983 | 801.2 | 257.7 | 135.0 | 87.7 | 270.6 | 67.8 | 1,641.4 |
| 1984 | 660.6 | 187.5 | 236.5 | 25.5 | 119.2 | 50.5 | 1,307.4 |
| 1985 | 398.7 | 355.9 | 336.2 | 22.5 | 92.9 | 20.7 | 1,256.2 |
| Twelve months ended— | | | | | | | |
| November 1984 | 637.7 | 213.6 | 226.6 | 22.0 | 132.8 | 49.8 | 1,308.5 |
| 1985 | 409.3 | 367.4 | 344.2 | 25.0 | 96.7 | 21.2 | 1,293.5 |
| 1986 | 602.2 | 302.1 | 171.8 | 44.4 | 132.9 | 29.8 | 1,306.6 |
| 1985— | | | | | | | |
| December | 22.9 | 6.9 | 3.7 | 1.7 | 3.2 | 1.4 | 45.0 |
| 1986— | | | | | | | |
| January | 5.7 | 4.8 | 1.1 | 0.7 | 1.7 | 0.8 | 15.2 |
| February | 82.1 | 6.9 | 20.3 | 1.8 | 5.6 | 1.8 | 121.0 |
| March | 37.3 | 12.2 | 3.4 | 2.3 | 4.1 | 0.8 | 63.1 |
| April | 119.3 | 19.6 | 57.2 | 1.6 | 20.7 | 0.3 | 221.1 |
| May | 91.5 | 69.0 | 13.5 | 19.9 | 18.2 | 7.0 | 221.8 |
| June | 54.4 | 12.2 | 3.9 | 0.7 | 3.2 | 8.0 | 83.5 |
| July | 59.9 | 20.5 | 19.9 | 3.6 | 12.7 | 2.6 | 119.9 |
| August | 12.6 | 11.8 | 7.4 | 2.9 | 31.7 | 0.6 | 67.3 |
| September | 33.6 | 29.5 | 18.9 | 3.1 | 13.4 | 1.5 | 102.7 |
| October | r37.7 | 27.8 | 6.0 | 2.1 | 7.3 | 1.7 | r84.1 |
| November | 45.1 | 81.1 | 16.5 | 4.1 | 11.1 | 3.2 | 162.0 |

(a) Includes the Northern Territory and the Australian Capital Territory.

TABLE 4. INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES: BY INDUSTRY, AUSTRALIA, WORKING DAYS LOST PER THOUSAND EMPLOYEES(a)

| Period | Manufacturing | | | | | | | |
|----------------------|---------------|-------|---|-------|--------------|--------------------------------------|------------------|----------------|
| | Mining | | Metal products, machinery and equipment | Other | Construction | Transport and storage; Communication | Other industries | All industries |
| | Coal | Other | | | | | | |
| 1983 | 3,223 | 3,375 | 353 | 186 | 1,269 | 485 | 42 | 249 |
| 1984 | 3,543 | 3,286 | 327 | 387 | 427 | 346 | 94 | 246 |
| 1985 | 6,739 | 1,724 | 242 | 296 | 580 | 404 | 75 | 230 |
| Twelve months ended— | | | | | | | | |
| November 1985 | 6,462 | 1,742 | 262 | 302 | 573 | 420 | 82 | 237 |
| 1986 | 10,450 | 2,571 | 430 | 302 | 363 | 135 | 58 | 231 |

(a) Excludes agriculture, etc. and private households employing staff.

CHART 1. INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES: BY INDUSTRY, AUSTRALIA, WORKING DAYS LOST PER THOUSAND EMPLOYEES, TWELVE MONTHS ENDED NOVEMBER 1985 AND 1986

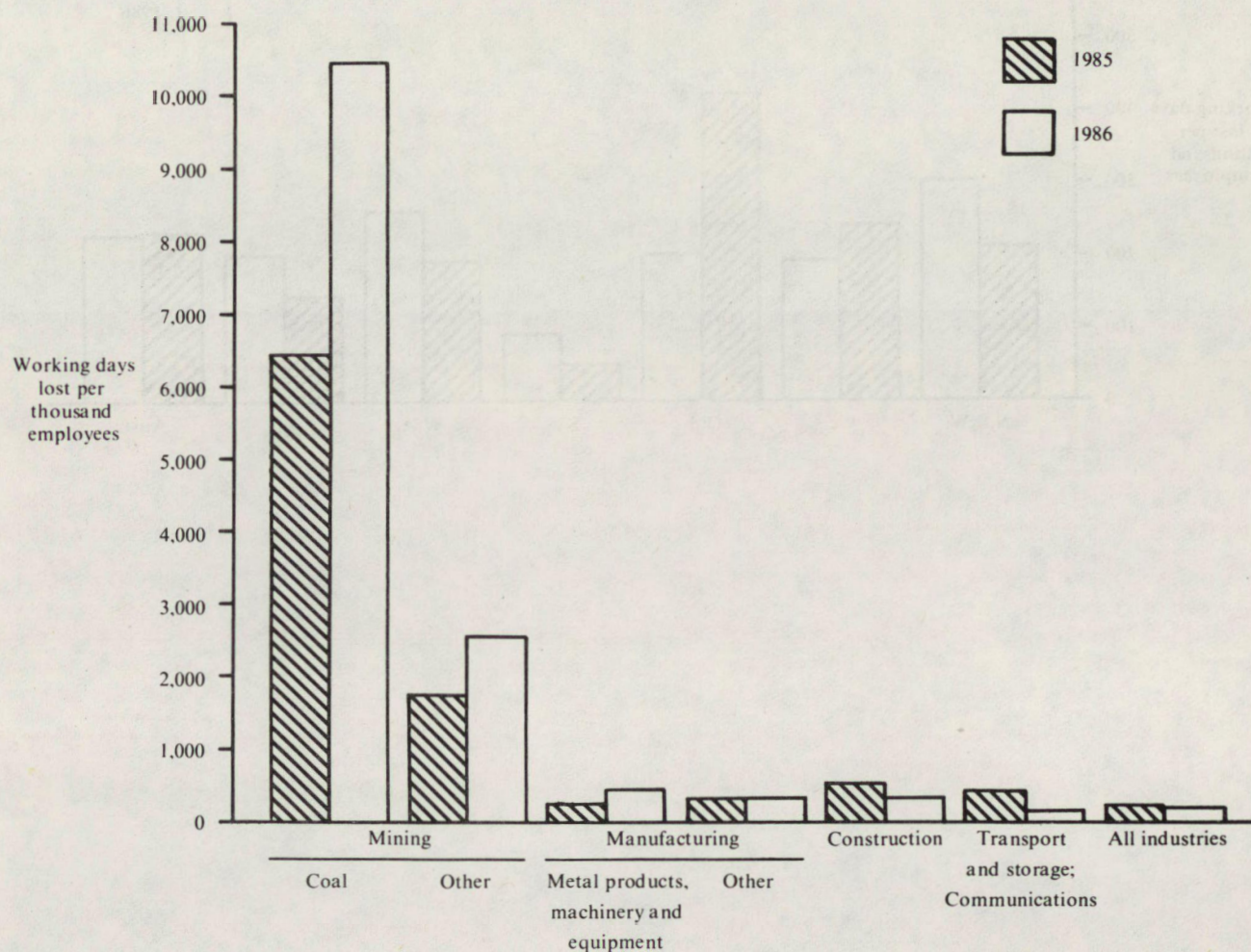


TABLE 5. INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES: STATES AND AUSTRALIA, WORKING DAYS LOST PER THOUSAND EMPLOYEES(a)

| <i>Period</i> | <i>N.S.W.</i> | <i>Vic.</i> | <i>Qld</i> | <i>S.A.</i> | <i>W.A.</i> | <i>Tas.</i> | <i>Aust.(b)</i> |
|-----------------------------|---------------|-------------|------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-----------------|
| 1983 | 287 | 163 | 176 | 115 | 577 | 478 | 249 |
| 1984 | 355 | 131 | 301 | 56 | 251 | 352 | 246 |
| 1985 | 209 | 239 | 417 | 48 | 190 | 145 | 230 |
| <i>Twelve months ended—</i> | | | | | | | |
| November 1985 | 214 | 247 | 427 | 54 | 198 | 149 | 237 |
| 1986 | 307 | 197 | 202 | 93 | 262 | 203 | 231 |

(a) Excludes agriculture, etc. and private households employing staff. (b) Includes the Northern Territory and the Australian Capital Territory.

CHART 2. INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES: STATES AND AUSTRALIA, WORKING DAYS LOST PER THOUSAND EMPLOYEES, TWELVE MONTHS ENDED NOVEMBER 1985 AND 1986